

Hybrid High-Temperature Superconductor Current Leads for Space Applications, Phase II

Completed Technology Project (2009 - 2013)



Project Introduction

The Tai-Yang Research Company (TYRC) proposes to address the need for high temperature superconducting (HTS) current leads used in an adiabatic demagnetization refrigerator (ADR) for space applications, presently being developed at the NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). The innovation is to use a hybrid of two different HTS conductors bonded together at a thermally and electrically determined optimum point along the length of the current lead. The HTS conductor positioned at the warm end of the current lead will have a higher critical temperature (T_c) than the conductor at the cold end. This hybrid lead uses commercially available 2nd generation HTS conductors optimized for currents less than 10A. The warm end T_c is extended by using a bulk or thin film form not yet commercially available. TYRC will custom-fabricate the higher T_c materials and develop processes for joining them to the lower T_c material. TYRC will develop fabrication processes and generate options for mechanical design of the lead assembly.

Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners



Organizations Performing Work	Role	Type	Location
★ Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)	Lead Organization	NASA Center	Greenbelt, Maryland
Tai-Yang Research Corporation	Supporting Organization	Industry	Knoxville, Tennessee



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Organizational Responsibility

Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Lead Center / Facility:

Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)

Responsible Program:

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

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Primary U.S. Work Locations

Maryland

Tennessee

Project Transitions



December 2009: Project Start



December 2013: Closed out

Project Management

Program Director:

Jason L Kessler

Program Manager:

Carlos Torrez

Technology Areas

Primary:

- TX01 Propulsion Systems
 - └ TX01.1 Chemical Space Propulsion
 - └ TX01.1.5 Hybrids